

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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## REGION 1 1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, 02114-2023

# URGENT LEGAL MATTER -- PROMPT REPLY NECESSARY CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

March 31, 2009

Ross & Roberts, Inc. Benjamin Rosenberg, President 1299 West Broad Street Stratford, CT 06615

Re: Notice of Potential Liability and Invitation to Perform or Finance Removal Activities Great Lakes Container Corporation Superfund Site, Coventry, RI

Dear Mr. Rosenberg:

This letter serves (1) to notify you of potential liability regarding the Great Lakes Container Corporation Superfund Site ("Site") as defined by Section 107(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), commonly known as the federal "Superfund" law; and (2) to notify you of planned removal activities at the Site which you are invited to perform or finance and which you may be ordered to perform at a later date.

Under CERCLA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") is responsible for responding to the release or threat of release of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants into the environment, *i.e.*, for stopping further contamination from occurring and for cleaning up or otherwise addressing any contamination that has already occurred. EPA has documented that such a release has occurred at the Site, which is located at 592 Arnold Road in Coventry, RI.

Hazardous substances involved in the release or threat of release at the Site include, but are not limited to: volatile organic compounds, semivolatile organic compounds, polychlorinated biphenyls, pesticides and metals. EPA is considering spending public funds to investigate and address the releases and/or threatened releases at the Site. Based on information presently available to EPA, EPA has determined that you are a potentially responsible party ("PRP") under CERCLA for the cleanup of the Site, which you are invited to perform or finance and which you may be ordered to perform at a later date. Unless a PRP or parties commit to properly performing or financing such actions, EPA will perform these actions pursuant to Section 104 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604.

# EXPLANATION OF POTENTIAL LIABILITY

Under CERCLA, specifically Sections 106(a) and Section 107(a), 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(a) and 9607(a), and other laws, PRPs may be required to implement cleanup actions deemed necessary by EPA to protect public health, welfare or the environment and may be liable for all costs incurred by the government in responding to any release or threatened release of hazardous substances at the Site. Such actions and costs may include, but are not limited to: expenditures for investigations, planning, response, disposal, oversight and enforcement activities.

Under Section 107(a) of CERCLA, PRPs include current and former owners and operators of a Superfund site, as well as persons who arranged for treatment and/or disposal of any hazardous substances found at a site, and persons who accepted hazardous substances for transport and selected a site to which the hazardous substances were delivered.

EPA has evaluated a large body of evidence in connection with its investigation of the Site, including historical documents. Based on this evidence, EPA has information indicating that you are a PRP under Section 107(a) of CERCLA with respect to the Site. Specifically, EPA has reason to believe that you, or your predecessor, arranged by contract, agreement or otherwise for disposal or treatment, or arranged with a transporter for transport for disposal or treatment, of hazardous substance(s) at or to the Site. Evidence indicates that you sent drums with residual wastes to the Site for reconditioning by D.F. Farrell Sons, Inc. and/or Great Lakes Container Corporation. (See Enclosure C, described below)

# **OUTLINE OF SITE RESPONSE ACTIVITIES**

To date, EPA has taken the following response actions at the Site under the authority of the Superfund Program: a Preliminary Assessment ("PA") and Site Investigation ("SI") in order to gain a basic understanding of any risks posed to human health and/or the environment by releases or threatened releases from the Site.

Due to the presence of hazardous substances at the Site, and in light of other factors, EPA has determined that there is an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health, welfare, or the environment. In response, EPA plans to conduct the following immediate removal activities: 1) sampling, identification and characterization of hazardous substances in soils and sediments, and 2) removal and disposal of soils and sediments containing hazardous substances at an EPA-approved disposal facility.

# INVITATION TO PERFORM SITE RESPONSE ACTIONS

Before EPA spends public funds to undertake the removal action at the Site, EPA urges you to participate in removal activities or finance all the removal activities outlined above. Any such work performed by you in your capacity as a PRP may be conducted pursuant to an

administrative order and an EPA-approved workplan as authorized by Section 106(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9606(a). Prior to final issuance of such an order, a draft order would be sent to you or your representative for review and comment. Enclosed is a copy of a summary of a generic Scope of Work. This document should provide a general understanding of the types of plans and activities typically required by such an Order.

Be advised that even if you do not indicate a willingness to perform or finance necessary response actions, EPA explicitly reserves any rights it may have to order you to undertake such actions under Section 106 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9606. Failure to comply with a Section 106(a) administrative order may result in a fine of up to \$37,500 per day under Section 106(b) or imposition of treble damages under Section 107(c)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(c)(3). Further, you may be held liable under Section 107(a) for the cost of response activities EPA performs at the Site and for any damages to natural resources. In addition, by virtue of Section 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613, other PRPs who agree to perform the necessary response action may seek contribution protection.

# PRP RESPONSE AND EPA CONTACT

You should contact EPA within **ten** (10) **business days** after receipt of this letter to indicate your willingness to perform or finance the response activities outlined above. If EPA does not receive a response within that time, EPA will assume that you do not wish to negotiate a resolution of your liabilities in connection with the response and that you have declined any involvement in performing response activities. Be advised, however, that liability under CERCLA is joint and several; therefore, each PRP is potentially liable for undertaking all response actions or reimbursing the Government for the entire amount of its response costs.

Please provide the name, address, telephone number, and email address of a designated contact for future communications. Your written response, including any technical comments or questions concerning the proposed response activities should be directed to the EPA On-Scene Coordinator ("OSC") or the Enforcement Coordinator ("EC") for the Site:

Allen Jarrell, On-Scene Coordinator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (HBR) Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023 (617) 918-1314

or

Tina Hennessy, Enforcement Coordinator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (HBR)

Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023 (617) 918-1216

Legal questions and all communications from counsel should be directed to:

John Hultgren, Enforcement Counsel U.S. Environmental Protection Agency One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (SES) Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023 (617) 918-1761

## **DECISION NOT TO USE SPECIAL NOTICE**

Under Section 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(e), EPA has the discretionary authority to invoke special notice procedures to formally negotiate the terms of an agreement between EPA and the PRPs to conduct or finance response activities. The use of special notice procedures triggers a moratorium on certain EPA activities at the Site while formal negotiations between EPA and the PRPs are conducted.

Due to the exigencies posed by conditions present at the Site, removal activities must be conducted as expeditiously as possible. EPA has therefore decided not to invoke the Section 122(e) special notice procedures with respect to CERCLA removal actions at this Site. Nonetheless, EPA is willing to discuss settlement opportunities without invoking a moratorium, but will continue the response action as planned unless such discussions lead expeditiously to a settlement.

# **INFORMATION TO ASSIST YOU**

EPA would like to encourage communication between you, other PRPs, and EPA concerning the Site. A Notice of Potential Liability has also been sent to the parties identified in Enclosure B below. You or your attorney may wish to discuss the matters set forth in this letter with such parties or their attorneys.

## **ENCLOSURE INFORMATION**

- A description of the Site (Enclosure A)
- A list of the names and addresses of PRPs to whom this notification was provided. This list represents EPA's preliminary findings on the identities of PRPs. EPA's PRP search is continuing. Inclusion on or exclusion from the list does not constitute a final determination by the Agency concerning the liability of any party for the hazard or contamination at the Site (Enclosure B)

- A discretionary release on DVD of documentation concerning companies that sent wastes to the Site (Enclosure C). With respect to Respondent's liability, see drum summaries attached as Exhibit R within the information request response by Covidien/Mallinckrodt, LLC, dated January 23, 2009.
- A discretionary release on CD of documentation concerning contamination at the Site, operations at Site, companies that sent wastes to the Site, and ownership of the Site. (Enclosure D).
- A Generic Scope of Work (Enclosure E).
- An Information Sheet for Small Businesses (Enclosure F)

# **ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

Pursuant to Section 113(k) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(k), EPA will establish an administrative record containing documents that serve as the basis of EPA's decision on the selection of a cleanup action for the Site. The Administrative Record files may be inspected and comments may be submitted by contacting the OSC for the Site, Allen Jarrell, at the above address.

The Administrative Record Files with corresponding index should be available for inspection at a repository near the Site within sixty (60) days of initiation of on-site removal activities, as well as the Superfund Records Center, U.S. E.P.A., 1 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02114 (617) 918-1440.

## SITE ACTIVITY OUTSIDE EPA ACTIONS

If you are already involved in discussions with state or other local authorities or involved in a lawsuit regarding this Site, you should continue such activities as you see fit. This letter is not intended to advise or direct you to restrict or discontinue any such activities. However, you are advised to report the status of any such discussions or actions in your response to this letter and to provide a copy of your response to any other parties involved in those discussions or actions.

## RESOURCES AND INFORMATION FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

As you may be aware, on January 11, 2002, the Superfund Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was signed into law. This Act contains several exemptions and defenses to CERCLA liability, which we suggest that all parties evaluate. You may obtain a copy of the law via the Internet at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/swerosps/bf/sblrbra.htm">http://www.epa.gov/swerosps/bf/sblrbra.htm</a> and review EPA's guidance documents regarding these exemptions at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources">http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources</a> policies/cleanup/superfund.

EPA has also created a number of helpful resources for small businesses. EPA has established the National Compliance Assistance Clearinghouse as well as Compliance Assistance Centers which offer various resources to small businesses. You may inquire about these resources at

www.epa.gov. In addition, the EPA Small Business Ombudsman may be contacted at www.epa.gov/sbo. Finally, EPA developed a fact sheet about the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act ("SBREFA"), which is enclosed with this letter.

# **PURPOSE AND USE OF THIS NOTICE**

The factual and legal discussions contained in this letter are intended solely to provide notice and information. Such discussions are not intended to be, and cannot be, relied upon as EPA's final position on any matter set forth herein.

Due to the seriousness of the environmental and legal problems posed by conditions at the Site, EPA urges that you give immediate attention and provide a prompt response to this letter. By copy of this letter, EPA is notifying the State of Rhode Island and the Natural Resources Trustees of EPA's intent to perform, or to enter negotiations for the performance or financing of, response actions at the Site.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Arthur V. Johnson, III, Chief

Emergency Planning & Response Branch

Enclosures

Shelley Ducharme, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Andrew Raddant, Regional Environmental Officer - U.S. DOI

Ken Finkelstein, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration - NOAA

Allen Jarrell, EPA On-Scene Coordinator - HBR

Tina Hennessy, EPA Enforcement Coordinator - HBR

John Hultgren, EPA Enforcement Counsel - SES

Holly Inglis, EPA Administrative Records Coordinator - HBS

# SITE DESCRIPTION

The Great Lakes Container Corporation Superfund Site is located at 592 Arnold Road in Coventry, RI. The Site is 27-acres and bordered to the north by Tiogue Lake and wetlands, to the east and southeast by undeveloped woodlands, to the southwest by Arnold Road and to the northwest by residential properties.

On-site structures, all of which are located on the southwestern portion of the property, include the CAL Chemical Corporation facility building and an adjacent structure referred to as Building 12. The area around and to the east of the on-site buildings is generally level and slopes slightly to the north and northwest. Northeast of the on-site buildings, an embankment rises approximately 15 feet above the level area. North and northwest of the on-site buildings, there is an embankment that slopes downward approximately 50 feet below the level area towards Tiogue Lake. The area north and northwest of the lower embankment is forested and undeveloped.

From about 1961 to 1973, D.F. Farrell Sons, Inc. operated a drum reconditioning business at the Site. Beginning in 1973, Great Lakes Container Corporation ("GLCC I") operated a drum reconditioning business at the Site. Following a merger in 1975, GLCC I was operated as a division of International Minerals and Chemical Corporation until the division was sold in 1976. From 1976 to about 1984, Great Lakes Container Corporation ("GLCC II") operated a drum reconditioning business at the Site. Witness interviews and historical documents indicate that at various times between 1961 and 1984, drums sent to the Site for reconditioning contained varying amounts of residual wastes, including waste oils, tars and chemicals. According to witnesses and documents, these wastes were removed from drums by either burning the drums over a furnace and/or emptying wastes into a pit or trench leading to an underground storage tank for later disposal.

Various investigations have revealed stored leaking drums, buried drums in varying states of decay, waste disposal pits, and underground waste storage tanks (including a buried tanker truck). Wastes were also reportedly disposed of on-site at various times by spreading waste on the ground, dumping waste over the edge of the bank in the back of the facility or into a leaching field, and placement of waste into a lagoon.

In 2005, EPA conducted a Preliminary Assessment and Site Investigation, confirming the presence of numerous hazardous substances at the Site, including, but not limited to: volatile organic compounds, semivolatile organic compounds, polychlorinated biphenyls pesticides and metals.

EPA is currently planning to perform the following removal activities at the Site: 1) sampling, identification and characterization of hazardous substances in soils and sediments, and 2) removal and disposal of soils and sediments containing hazardous substances at an EPA-approved disposal facility.

# GREAT LAKES CONTAINER CORPORATION SUPERFUND SITE POTENTIALLY RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

American Mineral Spirits c/o Richard T. Hughes, Esq. Chevron U.S.A. Inc. Law Department 1600 Smith Street, Room 27038B Houston, TX 77002

ATI Allegheny Ludlum (f/k/a Allegheny Ludlum Steel) Terry L. Dunlap, President 1000 Six PPG Place Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Borden & Remington Corp. Robert F. Bogan, President 63 Water Street, Suite 3 Fall River, MA 02722

BP Products North America, Inc. (f/k/a Amoco Oil Company) c/o James L. Lucari Managing Attorney 4101 Winfield Road Warrenville, IL 60555

Carol Cable Co. c/o Avnet, Inc. Roy Vallee, CEO 2211 South 47th Street Phoenix, AZ 85034

C.L. Hauthaway & Sons Leopoldo A. Johnson, CEO 638 Summer Street Lynn, MA 01905 CNA Holdings, Inc.

(f/k/a Hoechst Chemical Corp. and American Hoechst Corp.)

c/o David Graham, Esq.

Kaufman & Canoles, P.C.

4801 Courthouse Street, Suite 300

Williamsburg, VA 23188

Cooley, Inc. Jeffrey C. Flath, President, 50 Eastern Avenue Pawtucket, RI 02860

Development Associates Douglas W. Nannig, President 300 Old Baptist Road North Kingston, RI 02852

Drake Petroleum Company, Inc. (f/k/a Warren Oil Co.) c/o Jeffrey A. Walker, Esq. Warren Equities, Inc. 20 Mall Road, Suite 230 Burlington, MA 01803

Eastern Color & Chemical Coatings Barry Shepard, President 35 Livingston Street P.O. Box 6161 Providence, RI 02904

Elmwood Sensors, Inc. Guy DeSaulniers, EHS Manager 500 Narragansett Park Dr. Pawtucket, RI 02881 Exxon Company
c/o Steven P. Schmidt, Project Manager
Exxon Mobil Corporation
3225 Gallows Road (Room 8B-0829)
Fairfax, VA 22037

General Dynamics
Electric Boat Division
Joseph E. Chontos, General Counsel
75 Eastern Point Road
Groton, CT 06340-4989

Getty Oil Co. c/o Richard T. Hughes, Esq. Chevron U.S.A. Inc. Law Department 1600 Smith Street, Room 27038B Houston, TX 77002

Getty Oil Co.
c/o Lukoil Americas Corporation
Michael G. Lewis, General Counsel
Lukoil Plaza
1500 Hempstead Turnpike
East Meadow, NY 11554

Hubbard Hall, Inc. Andrew J. Skipp, President P.O. Box 790 Waterbury, CT 06720

I.C.I. Americas c/o Michelle T. Dillione, Esq. AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP 1800 Concord Pike P.O. Box 15437 Wilmington, DE 19850

John H. Collins & Son Company c/o Thomas C. Plunkett, Esq. Kiernan, Plunkett & Redihan LLP The Remington Building 91 Friendship Street Providence, RI 02903 John P. Hass & Sons c/o Joseph A. Hass, President Hass Brothers, Inc. 190 Providence Street Rehoboth, MA 02769

John R. Hess & Company, Inc. (f/k/a John R. Hess & Sons, Inc.) Peter Y. Hess, President 400 Station Street Cranston, RI 02910

Kingston Steel Drum c/o Patricia Duft, Esq. Vice President Legal Mallinckrodt, LLC 675 McDonnell Boulevard Hazelwood, MO 63042

Charles Lamendola c/o Alexandra K. Callam, Esq. Hinckley Allen Snyder LLP 50 Kennedy Plaza, Suite 1500 Providence, RI 02903-2319

Mainline Paint Mfg. Co. (f/k/a M & M Paint Mfg. Co.) Richard Main, President 768 Main Street Pawtucket, RI 02860-3630

Mallinckrodt, LLC
c/o Patricia Duft, Esq.
(f/k/a International Minerals and
Chemical Corporation)
Vice President Legal
675 McDonnell Boulevard
Hazelwood, MO 63042

The Narragansett Electric Company c/o National Grid USA David C. Lodemore, Counsel 25 Research Drive Westborough, MA 01582 Northeast Products Co., Inc. Atherton G. Cutter, Jr., President 50 Kennedy Plaza, Suite 1500 Providence, RI 02903

NuBrite Chemical Co. c/o Charles Scudder, Vice President Akzo Nobel Coatings, Inc. 525 W. Van Buren Street Chicago, IL 60607

Nyman Mfg. c/o Clay Dunn, President Huhtamaki - East Providence, Inc. 9201 Packaging Dr. Desoto, KS 66016

Raytheon Company
Office of General Counsel
Jeffrey Axelrod, Esq.
870 Winter Street
Waltham, MA 02451

R.E. Carroll, Inc., R. Emmett Carroll, Jr., CEO, 1570 North Olden Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08638

Ross & Roberts, Inc. Benjamin Rosenberg, President 1299 West Broad Street Stratford, CT 06615

Shell Oil Company c/o Kimberly Lesniak Senior Legal Counsel 910 Louisiana Street, Room 4870 Houston, TX 77002

Soluol, Inc. c/o Richard Sherman, Esq. Edwards & Angell, LLP 2800 Financial Plaza Providence, RI 02903 The Stanley Works c/o Theodore C. Morris Assistant General Counsel 1000 Stanley Drive P.O. Box 7000 New Britain, CT 0605

Sunoco, Inc.
c/o Lisa A. Runyon
Senior Counsel
1735 Market Street, Suite LL
Philadelphia, PA 19103-7583
Texaco, Inc.
c/o Richard T. Hughes, Esq.
Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Law Department
1600 Smith Street, Room 27038B
Houston, TX 77002

Uniroyal c/o Michelin North America, Inc. Richard Wilkerson, President One Parkway South P.O. Box 19001 Greenville, SC 29602

Uniroyal Holding, Inc. (d/b/a U.S. Rubber Company) c/o Susan Shumway, Esq. 70 Great Hill Road Naugatuck, CT 06770

Whittaker Corporation
(d/b/a Chemical Products Company)
c/o Eric G. Lardier, VP, General
Counsel and Secretary
Meggitt-USA/Whittaker Corporation
1955 North Surveyor Avenue
Simi Valley, CA 93063

Wyeth Holdings, Inc.
(f/k/a American Cyanamid Company)
c/o Thomas Mesevage, Esq.
Cytec Industries, Inc.
5 Garrett Mountain Plaza
West Paterson, NJ 07424

## SUMMARY OF GENERIC SCOPE OF WORK

This summary of the Generic Scope of Work is provided for informational purposes only. More detailed provisions will be set forth in the site-specific Scope of Work. Provisions may vary from site to site.

When EPA determines that a Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) has the ability to promptly and properly prevent, mitigate, or eliminate the threats posed by hazardous substances at the Site, EPA may issue an Administrative Order (Order) to such party (the Respondent) with an attached Scope of Work (SOW). The Order and SOW, among other things, compel the Respondent to develop a plan to clean up the Site. The components of the plan (also called a "deliverable") must be submitted to EPA for approval before implementation. Detailed instructions for generating each component shall be provided in the SOW. The plan shall consist of the components listed below.

- 1) Site Security The Respondent shall provide on-site security service. Site security shall be maintained until EPA determines the threats posed by conditions at the Site are eliminated or substantially mitigated.
- 2) Notification of Contractor Selection The Respondent shall notify EPA of the proposed cleanup contractor selected to perform work required under the Order.
- 3) Site-Specific Health and Safety Plan (HASP) The Respondent shall develop and implement a HASP for all activities to be conducted at the Site. The HASP shall be developed to protect all on-site personnel and must comply with all applicable health and safety regulations.
- 4) Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) The Respondent shall develop a QAP to be utilized in conducting all field and laboratory analysis. The QAP shall ensure that analytical results generated are of known quality.
- 5) Site Assessment Plan (SAP) The Respondent shall develop a SAP specifying the overall strategy of the field investigative work necessary to characterize site contamination.
- 6) Site Assessment A Site Assessment shall be conducted following EPA approval of the SAP.
- 7) Site Assessment Report and Cleanup Plan (SAR/CP) Following completion of the Site Assessment, the Respondent shall develop a SAR/CP that summarizes the Site Assessment and proposes cleanup methods necessary to substantially mitigate and/or eliminate the threats posed by hazardous substances present at the Site.
- 8) Site Cleanup The Site Cleanup shall be conducted according to the EPA approved Cleanup Plan.
- 9) Completion of Work Report (CWR) Upon completion of the Site Cleanup, the Respondent shall submit a CWR summarizing the work performed under the Order and SOW and outlining any remaining contamination.

At any time prior to or after the completion of the work specified in this SOW, EPA may determine that additional tasks are necessary in order to achieve the objectives of the Order, the SOW and CERCLA.



# Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance INFORMATION SHEET

## U. S. EPA Small Business Resources

f you own a small business, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) offers a variety of compliance assistance fesources such as workshops, training sessions, hotlines, websites, and guides to assist you in complying with federal and state environmental laws. These resources can help you understand your environmental obligations, improve compliance, and find costeffective ways to comply through the use of pollution prevention and other innovative technologies.

# **Compliance Assistance Centers**

(www.assistancecenters.net)

In partnership with industry, universities, and other federal and state agencies. EPA has established Compliance Assistance Centers that provide information targeted to industries with many small businesses.

#### Agriculture

(www.epa.gov/agriculture or 1-888-663-2155)

**Automotive Recycling Industry** (www.ecarcenter.org)

Automotive Service and Repair (www.ccar-greenlink.org or 1-888-GRN-LINK)

**Chemical Industry** (www.chemalliance.org)

Construction Industry (www.cicacenter.org or 1-734-995-4911)

Education (www.campuserc.org)

Healthcare Industry (www.hercenter.org or 1-734-995-4911)

Metal Finishing (www.nmfrc.org or 1-734-995-4911).

Paints and Coatings (www.paintcenter.org or 1-734-995-4911)

Printed Wiring Board Manufacturing (www.pwbrc.org or 1-734-995-4911)

#### Printing -

(www.pneac.org or 1-888-USPNEAC)

Transportation Industry (www.transource.org)

Tribal Governments and Indian Country (www.epa.gov/tribal/compliance or 202-564-2516)

US Border Environmental Issues (www.bordercenter.org or 1-734-995-4911)

The Centers also provide State Resource Locators (www.envcap.org/statetools/index.cfm) for a wide range of topics to help you find important environmental compliance information specific to your state.

#### **EPA** Websites

EPA has several Internet sites that provide useful compliance assistance information and materials for small businesses. If you don't have access to the Internet at your business, many public libraries provide access to the Internet at minimal or no cost.

**EPA's Home Page** www.epa.gov

Small Business Gateway www.epa.gov/smallbusiness

Compliance Assistance Home Page www.epa.gov/compliance/assistance

Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance www.epa.gov/compliance

**Voluntary Partnership Programs** www.epa.gov/partners

Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance: http://www.epa.gov/compliance

# U.S. EPA SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES

# Hotlines, Helplines & Clearinghouses

(www.epa.gov/epahome/hotline.htm)

EPA sponsors many free hotlines and clearinghouses that provide convenient assistance regarding environmental requirements. A few examples are listed below:

Clean Air Technology Center (www.epa.gov/ttn/catc or 1-919-541-0800)

Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (www.epa.gov/superfund/resources/infocenter/epcra.htm or 1-800-424-9346)

EPA's Small Business Ombudsman Hotline provides regulatory and technical assistance information. (www.epa.gov/sbo or 1-800-368-5888)

The National Environmental Compliance Assistance Clearinghouse provides quick access to compliance assistance tools, contacts, and planned activities from the U.S. EPA, states, and other compliance assistance providers (www.epa.gov/clearinghouse)

National Response Center to report oil and hazardous substance spills. (www.nrc.uscg.mil or 1-800-424-8802)

Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (www.epa.gov/opptintr/ppic or 1-202-566-0799)

Safe Drinking Water Hotline (www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline/index.html or 1-800-426-4791)

Stratospheric Ozone Refrigerants Information (www.epa.gov/ozone or.1-800-296-1996)

Toxics Assistance Information Service also includes asbestos inquiries. (1-202-554-1404)

Wetlands Helpline (www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/wetline.html or 1-800-832-7828)

# **State Agencies**

Many state agencies have established compliance assistance programs that provide on-site and other types of assistance. Contact your local state environmental agency for more information or the following two resources:

EPA's Small Business Ombudsman (www.epa.gov/sbo or 1-800-368-5888)

Small Business Environmental Homepage (www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org or 1-724-452-4722)

### **Compliance Incentives**

EPA provides incentives for environmental compliance. By participating in compliance assistance programs or voluntarily disclosing and promptly correcting violations before an enforcement action has been initiated,

businesses may be eligible for penalty waivers or reductions. EPA has two policies that potentially apply to small businesses:

The Small Business Compliance Policy (www.epa.gov/compliance/incentives/smallbusiness)

**Audit Policy** 

(www.epa.gov/compliance/incentives/auditing)

# Commenting on Federal Enforcement Actions and Compliance Activities

The Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) established an SBA Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards to receive comments from small businesses about federal agency enforcement actions. If you believe that you fall within the Small Business Administration's definition of a small business (based on your North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) designation, number of employees, or annual receipts, defined at 13 C.F.R. 121.201; in most cases, this means a business with 500 or fewer employees), and wish to comment on federal enforcement and compliance activities, call the SBREFA Ombudsman's toll-free number at 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

Every small business that is the subject of an enforcement or compliance action is entitled to comment on the Agency's actions without fear of retaliation. EPA employees are prohibited from using enforcement or any other means of retaliation against any member of the regulated community in response to comments made under SBREFA.

#### Your Duty to Comply

If you receive compliance assistance or submit comments to the SBREFA Ombudsman or Regional Fairness Boards, you still have the duty to comply with the law, including providing timely responses to EPA information requests, administrative or civil complaints, other enforcement actions or communications. The assistance information and comment processes do not give you any new rights or defenses in any enforcement action. These processes also do not affect EPA's obligation to protect public health or the environment under any of the environmental statutes it enforces, including the right to take emergency remedial or emergency response actions when appropriate. Those decisions will be based on the facts in each situation. The SBREFA Ombudsman and Fairness Boards do not participate in resolving EPA's enforcement actions. Also, remember that to preserve your rights, you need to comply with all rules governing the enforcement process.

EPA is disseminating this information to you without making a determination that your business or organization is a small business as defined by Section 222 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act or related provisions.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

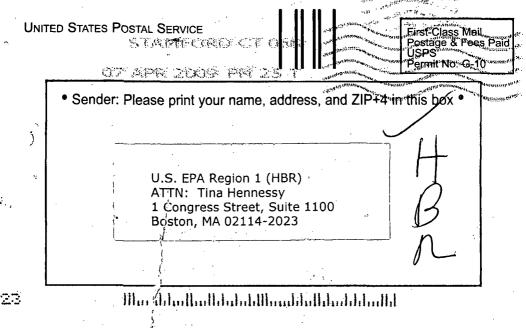


First-Class Mail Postage & Fees Paid USPS Permit No. G-10

 Sender: Please print your name, address, and ZIP+4 in this box U.S. EPA Region 1 (HBR) ATTN: Tina Hennessy 1 Congress Street, Suite 1100 Boston, MA 02114-2023

Manalahadhadhahalahdhaadhladhahalahalald

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY	
<ul> <li>Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.</li> <li>Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.</li> <li>Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.</li> <li>Article Addressed to:</li> <li>MUTHA CUILING LLP</li> </ul>	A. Signature  X	
Whitney Grove Square L Two Whitney Avenue New Haven, CT 66510-	3. Service Type  CD Certified Mail	
1250	4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) ☐ Yes	
2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 17008 1830 0002 8345 4171		
PS Form 3811, February 2004 Domestic Retu	urn Receipt 102595-02-M-1540	



SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY
<ul> <li>Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.</li> <li>Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.</li> <li>Attach this card to the back of the mailplece, or on the front if space permits.</li> </ul>	A. Signature  Agent  Addressee  B. Refleiyed by (Printed Name)  C. Date of Delivery
1. Article Addressed to:	D. Is delivery address different from item 1?
RossyRoberts, Inc.	
Benjamin Rosenbergiper 1299 West Bood Street	ь 1-
1299 WEST DOWN STUM	3. Service Type
Stratford, CT 06615	☐ Certified Mail ☐ Express Mail
3/10/10/01/01/00/13	☐ Registered ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise ☐ Insured Mail ☐ C.O.D.
	4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee)
2. Article Number 7000 1670 000	19637 9286
PS Form 3811, February 2004 Domestic Retu	urn Receipt 102595-02-M-1540